



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
103 THIRD AVENUE  
FORT LESLEY J. McNAIR, DC 20319-5058

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

ANOS (385)

6 March 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Issuance of Safety Eyewear

1. References:

a. AR 40-5, Preventive Medicine, 15 October 1990.

b. TB MED 506, Occupational and Environmental Health, Occupational Vision, December 1981.

2. MDW staff personnel were recently asked to clarify the eligibility requirements for military and civilian employees to receive eye examinations and safety eyewear (glasses or goggles) at government expense. AR 40-5 outlines requirements for the occupational vision program and is applicable to all facilities controlled by the Army and all elements of the Army.

3. An essential element of the occupational vision program is the conduct of job analyses to determine the visual requirements needed for jobs in eye hazardous areas. These areas will be determined by installation safety offices in accordance with TB MED 506. All eye hazardous areas and/or occupational job series do not require the use of prescription safety glasses. In many instances, industrial safety glasses or goggles (nonprescriptive) will suffice. The need for prescription safety glasses versus industrial safety eyewear will be determined by installation safety and medical personnel in accordance with TB MED 506.

4. Employees not possessing the necessary visual skills are referred for a complete visual examination. Military personnel will obtain the examination at medical treatment facilities (MTFs). Civilian employees who require a prescription change (as determined by the visual screening) or who have not previously worn safety glasses or goggles will be provided this service at government expense, either through MTFs, contract physicians, or reimbursement.

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5. Tinted prescription safety glasses are prohibited in indoor industrial areas and will be prescribed by medical personnel only when extenuating circumstances exist.

6. Safety eyewear will be obtained through UNICOR unless a waiver is granted. Installation logistics and contracting offices should be contacted for additional information and assistance in obtaining waivers. Use of the government IMPAC card to purchase safety eyewear is authorized.

7. For additional information or assistance, contact the MDW Safety Office at (202) 685-3015/3060 or DSN 325-3015/3060.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



DOUGLAS E. TAYLOR

Colonel, GS

Acting Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION:

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